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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Linda G. Lee et al.

Docket No: 375461-00002-T1C4
(355315)

Serial No.: 10/788,836

Group Art Unit: 1637

Filed: February 26, 2004

Examiner: Jezia RILEY

For: **ENERGY TRANSFER DYES WITH
ENHANCED FLUORESCENCE**

Confirmation No.: 7978

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR RESTRICTION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.142

Sir:

In response to the Office Communication mailed July 20, 2005, restricting the pending claims into four groups, Applicants elect to prosecute the claims Group I (Claims 1-21) without traverse.

The Patent Office indicates that the claims of Group I are directed to energy transfer dyes. However, elected Claims 2-21 are directed to fluorescently-labelled reagents. Should the Patent Office consider Claims 1 and 2-21 to be directed to distinct inventions, Applicants request that Claims 2-21 be examined on their merits.

A Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 CFR § 1.136(a) is being submitted concurrently herewith. The Petition extends the time for response for a period of 3 months, to and including November 21, 2005, (next business day after Sunday, November 20, 2005) making the instant response timely.

The Patent Office is authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments that may be required to Deposit Account No. 50-2778 (Order No. 375461-002T1C4 (355315)).

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: November 21, 2005

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